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RURAL DISTRICT OF NORTH WESTMORLAND

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ANNUAL REPORT

----of the----

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Rural District Council of North Westmorland.

Sir, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my  
Annual Report on the Health of the Rural District during the  
year 1942.

This report is issued in accordance  
with instruction from the Ministry of Health which requires  
economy in the matter of paper and that such reports should  
be confined to essential and urgent matters which have  
affected Public Health.

I regret to say that Mr. Calvert, the  
Sanitary Inspector of the Eastern District, has been off duty  
for the whole year; he is now rapidly improving and it is  
hoped that he will very shortly resume work.

I am indebted to the help I have  
received from the School Medical Officers of the County in  
carrying out immunization against Diphtheria and tend to them  
my thanks.

Should you desire any further  
particulars, I shall be glad to supply the same on your request.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

W. BARON COCKILL.

Medical Officer of Health.  
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8th June, 1943.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st. 1942.  
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Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.  
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Birth Rate.	17.6
" " England & Wales.	15.3
Still Birth Rate.	39
Death Rate.	10.4
" " England & Wales.	11.6

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

	<u>Deaths.</u>	
Puerperal Sepsis.	Nil	
Other Puerperal Causes.	Nil	
Total.	Nil	
Maternal Mortality Rate, England & Wales.		2.01

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:-

All Infants.	46.9
Legitimate Infants.	26.7
Illegitimate Infants.	33.3
Infantile Death Rate, England & Wales.	49

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	24
" " Measles. (all ages)	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

The largest number of deaths from any one Cause were:-

Heart Disease.	44
Cancer.	24
Intra-cranial vascular lesions.	23

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

A complaint was received by the Ministry from a person who had spent some time in various parts of the County, that he had possibly contracted Typhoid from the Kirkby Stephen Water Supply. There has been no confirmatory evidence of such and typhoid is unknown in this locality. The water supply is not good nor has chlorination improved its condition. It is derived from upland grazing land, passes through a very small storage tank and after rain is discoloured; no human habitations are so situated as to permit of human pollution but as the gathering ground is used for grazing, there is no doubt a considerable amount of animal pollution.

Sewerage.

Extension of the sewer at the north end of Clifton and relaying a length of sewer at Great Strickland have been carried out.



## Public Cleansing and Salvage.

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The collection of refuse at Cliburn has now been undertaken by the Council.

## Housing.

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Two houses have been provided during the year by the adaptation and alteration of existing buildings.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

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### Milk.

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10 samples of milk were taken during the year for bacteriological examination, under the County Council's Scheme, for cleanliness and the presence of tubercle bacilli, with the following results:- No tubercle bacilli were found and cleanliness can be expressed as:- complying with both tests, 3; with one test 3; with neither test 4.

### Adulteration etc., & Chemical & Bacteriological Examination of -----Food.-----

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority and this work is carried out by Mr. C.J.H. Stock., F.I.C., County Analyst, Darlington.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

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The incidence of Infectious Disease was less than in the previous year and consisted of 14 cases of Scarlet Fever, 2 of Diphtheria, 4 each of Cerebro-spinal Fever and Erysipelas, 2 each of Puerperal Pyrexia and Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 19 of Pneumonia and 18 of Dysentery (Sonne); Measles was prevalent to the same extent as in the previous year, 104 cases being notified but Whooping Cough had declined to the number of 13. Two cases of Pneumonia terminated fatally.

The Dysentery was confined to the Northern part of the District and occurred towards the end of June; at two farms, the inmates suffered considerably from the disease and the milk from one of the farms had produced an epidemic in a neighbouring County to which it had been supplied but there was no evidence of milk infection from the other farm which supplied milk in bulk to two institutions outside the Area. Pasteurization and Sterilization of both these milk supplies was carried out under the Medical Officers of Health of the districts involved and no further infection was reported.

Meat and Other Foods.  
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The regular meat inspections at the Regional Slaughter-house at Kirkby Stephen has again been kindly undertaken by the Penrith Officials. Mr. Sedgwick make the following returns :-

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.  
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	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed.	155	159	65	5767	98
Number Inspected.	155	159	65	5767	98
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned.	3	15	16	13	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	46	76	1	626	10
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis.	31.6%	57.23%	26.15%	11.03%	12.25%
Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned.	7	11	2	-	1
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned.	10	18	1	1	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	10.97%	18.24%	4.62%	-	2.04%

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DISEASE.	Total.	Ages											Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.	
		-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-			65-
Scarlet Fever.	14	-	-	1	-	-	8	4	-	1	-	-	10	-	
Diphtheria.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Pneumonia.	19	1	-	-	1	2	3	1	-	5	2	2	2	2	
Erysipelas.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	
Cerebro-spinal Fever.	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	4	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	
Dysentery.	18	1	1	-	-	2	2	-	3	6	1	1	1	-	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles.	104	-	6	5	7	10	51	24	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough.	13	3	1	1	1	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL	182	7	9	7	9	14	71	32	4	15	5	5	4	14	



Artificial Immunization against Diphtheria with A.P.T. has been continued throughout the year and 515 pre-school and 456 school children have completed this treatment.

Modern Isolation Hospital Accommodation is still lacking.

A Hostel for Problem Boys under 10 years of age was established at Warcop and the County War Agricultural Committee opened one at Cliburn for Male Agricultural Workers.

# TUBERCULOSIS TABLE.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Resp- iratory.		Non Resp- iratory.		Resp- iratory.		Non Resp- iratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	2	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
25	1	1	-	1	2	-	-	-
35	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45	3	-	1	-	2	-	-	-
55	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	6	4	2	3	5	-	-	-

There was a diminution in the number of cases notified compared with the previous year, ten of Pulmonary and five of Non-Pulmonary. Of these two were Military cases; three males died from Pulmonary Disease.

